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GRAY SQUIRREL AND A RATTLE SNAKE BATTLE

Reptile Attacked by Little Nut
Cracker at Hely's Rock
Crusher.

TOPPLE FROM LEDGE TO QUARRY'S BOTTOM

Woman Steps on Serpent Asleep
on Porch, Screams Then
Faints.

An exciting and unusual conflict was witnessed yesterday morning by a number of negro laborers at the Hely Rock Crusher plant, when a small gray squirrel engaged in deadly combat with an immense rattle-snake.

The squirrel was playing along the edge of the timber at the top of an abrupt cliff, and was being watched by Charles Washington, an employe at the quarry.

Washington was attracted by the peculiar actions of the little creature and when he drew closer to ascertain the cause, he saw stretched out on a narrow ledge a short distance from the top of the bluff, a large rattler which appeared to be about 5 feet in length.

While he was watching the reptile from his place of obscurity, the squirrel gave a sudden leap and alighted on the neck of the snake.

The game little assailant sank its keen teeth deep into the flesh of the wriggling monster, and as the struggle increased, kept up an incessant chattering noise.

The snake tried vainly to incircle the little squirrel in its coils, and in its struggles rolled from the narrow ledge and fell into the rocky pit more than 40 feet below.

The serpent was stunned by the fall, and remained motionless until a party of workmen who had been attracted by the sounds came and captured the squirrel which had received a broken leg in the fall.

The snake was dispatched with a club. It had seven rattles.

Yesterday afternoon in a large black snake found its way to the front porch of the home of Mrs. Con Abernathy, at 415 North Middle street in this city, where it lay stretched out in the sun, when Erma Abernathy, one of the children ran out onto the porch and stepped on it.

She was not aware of its presence until she felt it squirm beneath her feet, and when she realized that she was standing on a snake, she was overcome with terror, and after screaming loudly, fainted and was found lying near the snake by members of the family who had been attracted by her shrieks.

The reptile was of the variety known as the black snake, and after its head was cut off, measured four and one-half feet in length.

Mr. Bock, a carpenter, was passing when the excitement was at its height, and when called in by Mrs. Abernathy, killed the snake with a hatchet.

WOMEN BEAUTIFY CITY

Flowers Are Blooming on Lots Where
Weeds Used to Grow.

The activities of the ladies of the Improvement Association this spring have already produced noticeable results. A pleasing transformation has taken place on many of the vacant lots of the city, and where once existed piles of scrap and litter, and dense growths of weeds, may now be seen grassy plots and beds of blooming flowers.

The last of the unsightly spots to undergo the process of reclamation is the lot on which stand the ruins of the old Albert home on South Spanish street. Mrs. A. D. Speak and other ladies of the association have given these premises a thorough renovation, removing every particle of rubbish, smoothing and leveling the hummocks and planting it to beds of flowers of varied assortment.

Mrs. Charles W. Stehr led the crusade in Haaring, and what was once a desolate vacant lot at the corner of Good Hope and Sprigg streets, now forms as conspicuous and pleasing a view, as an oasis on a sandy desert. Flowers and plants of the choicest varieties now decorate the once barren surface which has taken on an appear-

MOST BEAUTIFUL GIRL



Miss Justine Johnstone, a well-known model and show girl, has been pronounced the most beautiful girl in America by several artists for whom she has posed, and is referred to as the typical American girl. Her photograph won the \$5,000 prize at the photograph show in New York.

DREDGING MACHINE DIGS UP ALLIGATOR

Baby Found in Swamps Submerged
is Slain But Will be
Stuffed.

Laborers employed on the dredging work near Arbor, reported last night on their arrival in this city that one of the excavating machines yesterday morning uncovered an alligator almost three feet in length.

The reptile was discovered in the line of one of the ditches where it enters the Old Field, a few miles south of Arbor. The creature had been submerged in the oozy mire to a depth of about 18 feet.

When exposed to the atmosphere it appeared for a few moments to be in a semi-torpid condition, but when a party of men assembled to look at it, the dormant tendencies vanished quickly and it attempted to charge the assemblage. It had been hurt when struck by the big excavating bucket and was unable to move with its natural rapidity.

In its crippled condition it was unable to climb up the ditch embankment, and was held prisoner for several hours before it was finally shot and killed.

The hide was taken by Ben Rambo, a machine operator, who will send it to a taxidermist and have it mounted.

LIBRARY FIRE IN ST. PAUL

St. Paul, Minn., April 28—Two firemen were seriously injured and nine others overcome by smoke when the three-story St. Paul public library in the heart of the business district, practically was destroyed early this morning causing an estimated loss of \$325,000. Five companies from Minneapolis helped fight the flames.

ance of almost tropical verdure.

The work has been continued to every section of the city, where it could be applied. The vacant lots on Broadway between Lorimer and Spanish streets are now veritable garden spots, and add materially to the attractiveness of the scenery along Broadway.

Spanish street from Independence to Broadway has had all its vacant spots put into a state of production. The vacant space immediately west of the Mayor's office has been placed in a state of cultivation and is now producing beds of beautiful and many colored flowers. The work is general throughout the city and is producing most satisfactory effects.

WATER HEARING IS POSTPONED BY CITY'S ATTORNEY

Senator Lane Asks Time to
File a New Complaint—
Inquiry Later.

BLACK SAYS SEWER EMPTIES NEAR PIPE

Bouquets Tossed at Telephone
Company During its Hearing
—No Complaints.

Edwin J. Bean, a member of the State Public Service Commission, yesterday temporarily terminated the hearing on complaints filed against the Water and Light Company. The continuance was ordered at the request of Senator Thomas F. Lane, who represented the city.

Senator Lane asked that the hearing be layed over until he could amend the complaint filed by the city against the water company. When he has made the desired changes he will notify I. R. Kelso, attorney for the Missouri Public Utilities Company, and then the Commission will be notified and a date for a hearing will be set.

Commissioner Bean heard but one witness yesterday against the water company. Walter D. Black, chairman of the Water & Light Committee of the City Council, presented briefly the charges against the company. It was Mr. Black who made the original complaint to the Public Service Commission, and the city asked for a public investigation upon information obtained by Mr. Black.

He informed Commissioner Bean that he had visited the water works a few days ago and found the company was pumping water from the river below the mouth of Sloan's creek, which carries away the sewage from the Normal School district. Councilman Black also said that he noticed a break in the intake pipe, which afforded impure water to enter the pipe between the mouth and the bank. He said he would produce witnesses to substantiate this charge.

Councilman Black has virtually worked alone in the City Council against the water company. It was stated by a city official yesterday that Mr. Black had employed Senator Lane at his own expense.

Commissioner Bean yesterday morning gave the Bell Telephone Company an opportunity to explain its reason for issuing a new schedule of rates. It was shown by the company that the change, which called for a slight increase in the schedule, was made necessary by a recent ruling of the Public Service Commission to avoid discriminating against its partons.

Charles W. Boutin, secretary of the Company, explained why the change had been made, and furnished data showing that the rate asked by the company was less than is charged by the telephone company in Poplar Bluff, Moberly, Columbia, Jefferson City and various other cities of approximately Cape Girardeau's size.

After he concluded his testimony, the remainder of the hearing consisted of bouquets for the company. Mayor Kage, Postmaster Flentge and two newspapermen testified that the service was good and that they had never heard of a complaint against the telephone company.

After hearing compliments from four witnesses, Mr. Bean announced that the testimony was sufficient and that he did not care to hear any more.

While Mr. Boutin was on the stand, he was making a comparison of the variation in rates charged by the telephone company here and the company in Jefferson City. Commissioner Bean was asked to substantiate the statement that the rate in Cape Girardeau was lower than the schedule in the State Capital. "I have not paid much attention to the telephone charges," said the Commissioner, "but I do know that Cape Girardeau is a much better city," which created a ripple of laughter.

Mr. Bean, who is a brother-in-law of I. Ben Miller of this city, was graduated from the Normal School here, is a native of Southeast Missouri, and at one time served as Assistant Attorney General of Missouri. He is considered one of the ablest lawyers in the State, and is familiarly known in this city.

WHEN THE STEAMER FALABA WAS TORPEDOED



Remarkable photograph taken from the deck of the Falaba by an Englishman when the steamer was torpedoed in St. George's channel by a German submarine. It shows the lifeboat which capsized when the torpedo exploded, with the passengers struggling in the water.

T. R. SAYS HE WAS BOSS PLATT'S PAL

Colonel Tells Jury He Didn't Care
to Disrupt G. O. P. in
New York.

Syracuse, April 28—Getting back his old fire, Roosevelt again dominated the court today. He addressed the jury for five minutes, gesticulating freely.

Ivins concluded his cross examination this morning. In the re-direct examination Roosevelt declared he consulted Platt in all matters because Platt couldn't do the "affirmative right."

He sent Platt proof of the gubernatorial message because he wanted Platt to know where Roosevelt stood, and get the benefit of Platt's advice.

He stated that he was not pledged to obey Platt when elected Governor, and that it was not Platt, but the unanimous vote of the delegates of the Philadelphia convention that induced him to run for Vice President.

Syracuse, N. Y., April 28—Theodore Roosevelt, as a witness in the \$50,000 libel suit brought against him by William Barnes, today told why, when Governor of New York and President of the United States, he conferred with former U. S. Senator Thomas C. Platt—"the boss."

While he was Governor, the Colonel declared, he discussed things with Senator Platt because he had found out that the Legislature obeyed his orders. And the witness thought it best when there was any likelihood of that law-making body of the State disagreeing with him to first go to headquarters and talk things over. Further, as Governor, the Colonel said, he didn't want to run any chances of disrupting the Republican party.

As President of the United States, the Colonel readily admitted, he conferred constantly with the Senator from New York on all manner of things. He said he valued the Senator's advice and wanted to take advantage of his wide experience.

These statements were made in reply to questions asked the Colonel during the early part of his re-direct examination, his cross-examination by counsel for William Barnes, having been concluded today. The Colonel exhibited his usual activity on the witness stand. He slapped his hands on his thighs and moved his arms and head to give emphasis to his words. He raised his voice and pounded on the arm of the witness chair until counsel for Barnes entered an objection with the Court against what they termed his "gesticulations."

Before court opened attorneys for Col. Roosevelt and Barnes held a conference. It was said this had to do with the admission of certain evidence. When Justice Andrews ascended the bench he warned the jury against reading the newspapers.

Ivins then asked the Colonel whether he remembered making a speech at Hudson Falls in 1913. "Where is Hudson Falls?" asked the Colonel. Ivins replied: "I have never been Governor, and consequently I have never been all over the State."

The speech at Hudson Falls was read. In it Col. Roosevelt was reported as saying that Barnes was a menace to the State of New York and that

JACKSON BOY, 4, IS RUN OVER BY AUTO

Joe Wessell is Believed to Have
Been Fatally Hurt by
Machine.

Joe Wessell, the 4-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. William Wessell of Jackson, was run down and probably fatally injured late yesterday afternoon by an autodriven by Wade Clodfelter. The accident occurred on Main street, in front of the furniture and undertaking establishment of Mr. Wessell.

The child was crossing the street from the Wagner bakery to his father's store when he was struck by the machine. He did not see the motor car until it was bearing down upon him, and he seemed almost paralyzed with fright.

The fender knocked the baby down and one wheel passed over the boy's head, inflicting what is believed to be a fatal injury.

Mr. Clodfelter, who made a heroic effort to stop the car, was grief-stricken over the accident. He stated that he was driving his car up the west bridge, and turned the corner at the Wessell furniture store, when the child ran in front of his machine. He first tried to steer the car to the opposite side of the street, but as he did so the lad became confused and again stepped in front of the motor.

The accident caused consternation in the County Seat. A great crowd gathered in front of the machine. The baby was carried into his father's store and a physician was hastily summoned.

Grave doubts were expressed of the lad's recovery, although the extent of the injury was not determined last night. The scalp was badly torn and it is believed that a heavy fracture of the skull was sustained.

SOLE MINE SURVIVOR DIES

Washington, April 27—Fred Ellwanger, sole survivor of the Marianna mine disaster of Nov. 28, 1909, in which about 200 men were killed, died today at a local hospital. Forty-two pieces of coal and slate were driven into his body in the explosion.

if he was a menace before election he was "a menace yet."

John M. Bowers, Col. Roosevelt's chief counsel, objected. Ivins explained to the Court that the Colonel's old speeches were not being introduced with an idea of compounding the alleged libel, but with the idea of showing the Colonel's state of mind. The objection was overruled.

In another speech Col. Roosevelt was quoted as saying, and he said he was incorrectly quoted, "that Mr. B. and Mr. M." should be in the same party. The speech was delivered in Saratoga. In it Col. Roosevelt was also quoted as saying that one controls New York and the other controls Albany.

Col. Roosevelt said the speech was substantially correct, but that part of things he said had been left out and part had been shortened and incorrectly reported. "I never said Mr. B. and Mr. M." the Colonel said. "I said Mr. Barnes and Mr. Murphy."

WALKER KILLED SELF, CALIFORNIA OFFICIALS SAY

Son of Mrs. R. T. Giboney
Took Poison in Los Angeles
Tuesday.

LOST ALL HIS MONEY IN BUSINESS VENTURE

Body Prepared for Shipment to
This City for
Burial.

A telegram from Los Angeles to The Tribune last night states positively that C. H. Walker, formerly of Cape Girardeau, committed suicide there Tuesday morning.

This message contradicts the report received yesterday by relatives, to the effect that the young man died of tuberculosis.

A telegram received last night in Los Angeles contained instructions to prepare the body for shipment to this city for burial.

The message received by The Tribune stated that Walker ended his life by poison and that there was found on his body written instructions to notify R. T. Giboney in this city of his act.

The deceased is the son of Mrs. Robert T. Giboney of this city, and a nephew of Louis B. Houck. He has been in the West for about five years, and has invested considerable money in business undertakings in California.

His last venture was the opening of a restaurant in San Monica, Cal., in which he is said to have sunk several thousand dollars.

The venture proved a failure and the young man lost everything he had put into the business. He is said to have become despondent over his reverses, and it is believed that this failure is responsible for his death.

He had appeared melancholy for several days, and had spent much of his time in the solitude of his room. When he failed to appear at his family haunts Tuesday morning, his acquaintances did not give the matter serious thought, but later in the afternoon when it was learned that he had not left his room during the day, an investigation was begun.

His door was locked, and when it was forced open, he was found fully dressed, lying across the bed. An empty phial labeled poison was found by his side. He was unconscious when discovered and when physicians were summoned they pronounced that life was extinct.

A coroner's inquest was held, at which a verdict of suicide was rendered.

The body was taken to the undertaking parlors of Booth & Fitch, where it is being prepared for shipment to this city.

SPEEDING AUTO IS TIMED

Dr. Cunningham Charged With Running
Too Fast by Police.

Upon report of Patrolman George Talley, Dr. Rex E. Cunningham was yesterday directed by Chief of Police Hutson to appear at the Police Court on the charge of exceeding the speed limit with his automobile.

Dr. Cunningham employed Attorney Thomas F. Lane to defend him, and as the lawyer was compelled to attend court in Jackson yesterday afternoon it was necessary to postpone the hearing, which was set for Saturday morning at 10 o'clock.

Officers Talley and Whitener stated that the physician drove at a dangerous speed on both Main street and Broadway. One of them used a stop watch in estimating the rate which they claim was found to be in violation of the ordinance.

Dr. Cunningham last night advised a Tribune representative, that he had driven to the depot to meet Dr. George Still who came in on the train and he returned from the station to his office but that he did not travel at any excessive rate, and in fact traveled not faster than his ordinary custom.

CAPT. BENSON CHOSEN FOR CHIEF OF NAVY BUREAU

Washington, April 28—Capt. William Shepherd Benson, commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, was this afternoon announced by Secretary Daniels as his choice for chief of the Bureau of Naval Operations—in other words, to be active head of the navy.

578 FRENCHMEN DIE IN CRUISER GERMANS SINK

Torpedo is on the Way When
Battleship Discovers
Submarine.

TEUTONS COLONIZING IN NORTHERN FRANCE

England Tightens Embargo on
Foodstuffs Into Germany,
London Says.

Paris, April 28—A Nancy dispatch to the Temps says a German aeroplane dropped three bombs in the center of the city, killing three and dangerously wounding six men. The French pursued, but the German escaped.

Lausanne, April 28—Practically the entire population of Sedan has entered Switzerland. In the last few days two train loads have entered daily. For weeks German colonization of Northern France has been suggested.

Paris, April 28—The Geneva Tribune says the Turkish Sultan will send autograph letters to the Triple Entente powers, asking separate peace, and that Field Marshal Goltz left Constantinople for Dardanelles, but that eight Turkish officers of his suite refused to accompany him. Not much credence is given this report here, however.

London, April 28—The Admiralty announces that the Allied troops have established themselves across the Gallipoli Peninsula.

London, April 28—The English embargo on foodstuffs into Germany will be tightened. According to a House of Commons announcement by Under-Secretary Primrose, importation of all foodstuffs into Germany through neutral states shows collusion between the consignee and German authorities. He said they were considering drastic measures.

London, April 28—An official from Gallipoli states that the Turks have made considerable preparation to hamper the landing, using wire entanglements under the sea as well as on land. Our troops overcame them and are now established in Gallipoli Peninsula, beating off the attacks at Sari Bair and steadily advancing.

Rome, April 28—An officer rescued from Leon Gambetta, said the ship was getting under way off Brindisi, Italy, when the Austrian submarine U-5 was sighted. The torpedo was already launched when the submarine was seen. The explosion flooded the engine room, putting the engines out of commission. This accounts for the French cruiser's failure to use wireless. According to the report, Rear Admiral Fenet and 578 men were lost.

Petrograd, April 28—Practically all the serious fighting in Carpathians remains focused in a portion of Sanek Homonna and Stryj-Munkace railroads. The battle is extremely intense. The Russians in Kozioivka region are not confining themselves to the defensive, but are assailing the Austro-German positions.

Mitylene, April 28—Bombardment of Dardanelles for the past three days has been extremely violent. The weather has been calm. A heavy bombardment continues this morning.

London, April 28—The terrific concentrated attack of the Germans planned by this time to hold Ypres has been turned into a desperate defensive on the Kaiser's legions part. Routed from their positions gained behind their screen of noxious gases, the Germans are fighting hard to hold their own lines.

London, April 28—Official announcements from Berlin and Paris today tell of the sinking in the Strait of Otranto by an Austrian submarine of the French armored cruiser Leon Gambetta with the loss of the greater part of her crew of 725 men. The cruiser was torpedoed Monday night.

The communication from the Ministry of Marine at Paris is as follows:

"The armored cruiser Leon Gambetta, cruising at the entrance of the Otranto Canal, was torpedoed the night of April 26-27 and went to the bottom in 10 minutes.

"All the officers on board perished at their posts. One hundred and thirty-six members of the crew, including 11 under officers, were rescued by

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